



PUBLISHED DAILY AND TRI-WEEKLY BY  
EDGAR SNOWDEN.  
WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 3.

As stated in our Washington correspondence yesterday, Judge Harris tried to have the U. S. House of Representatives set a day for the consideration of the bill for returning to Virginia the money she advanced the general government during its poverty in the war of 1812. Mr. Willets, a radical from Michigan, a gentleman to fame unknown, and whose only means for spreading the knowledge of his existence beyond the member who sits next to him is the power the House allows him to utter the words "I object," joyously, and with a light around his lips that was reflected from his heart, availed himself of this privilege, and the Judge's effort, consequently failed. When the officers of the treasury are running over with money, and when the representatives of the South vie with those of the North in their opposition to any measure that will prevent the northern holder of government bonds from selling them at their face value in gold, though he bought them as low as forty and fifty cents in the dollar, it seems more than strange that northern members of Congress should object to paying impoverished Virginia a just debt, and one the payment of which now would do no little way toward helping her out of her present financial difficulty. In U. S. Treasury accounts the amount is a mere bagatelle, about a million of dollars, but to Virginia, in her present condition, it is a bonanza.

There is no evil without a modicum of good, and if repudiation in Virginia has had no other beneficial effect, it has at least opened the eyes of the Philadelphia North American to what for years past has been apparent to everybody but a radical—the evils negro suffrage has inflicted upon the country. In referring to the readjusters success in this State it says:

"Some nations do not bear an excuse; there is no valid excuse for them. In this respect, the case of Virginia, who voted for repudiation. Repudiation is robbery. It cannot be justified. It cannot be apologized for. It can be punished. It will be punished. And if the old parties in Virginia failed to give the freed men all they demanded in the way of political position, we think the event has done a great deal toward justifying the old parties."

The election in Louisiana yesterday passed off as quietly as if it had taken place in Vermont, and resulted in a decisive victory for the democrats. General Woodford, of New York, was the only northern republican who took part in the preceding campaign. He did the best he could, but Louisiana, unlike Ohio, is democratic, "on a full vote," and as the republicans could gain but little and lose much by a resort to the use of the same means they employed there in the presidential election, the democracy secured the success to which it is legitimately entitled.

Several newspapers in the South as well as in the North, and the Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, speak of the democratic party as defeated, and allude to it as the late democratic party. We hope, if not trust, that the opportunities of the present session of Congress may be so availed of that at its close the corpse may exhibit such evidences of vitality as will alarm the radicals and scare them out of their self possession.

The split in the republican party on the currency question affords the democrats a rare opportunity to get back upon the old, good and true democratic platform of sound money, money that was good in the first ages of the world and that will be good in the last, and that depends upon itself, and not upon the government that issues it, for its value. Will they be wise enough to seize it and extract from it all of its possible advantages?

We are glad to see such influential northern papers as the Boston Herald and Philadelphia Record, who live and thrive among essentially manufacturing communities, taking ground against protective tariffs. The civilization of the world is too advanced for any restrictions upon trade and commerce, and opposition to protective tariffs will soon develop into what the best interests of the whole country demand—free trade.

The measure of Grant's inequities wanted but little to fill it, and that little he has just added by the hypocritical cant "that he sincerely hoped the necessity for his nomination would not arise," the necessity being the condition of affairs in the South. He has now little to recommend him above the other radical aspirants for the presidency.

The action of the readjusters in Richmond last night sent Virginia bonds down one per cent in Baltimore to-day. They have fallen from 55 to 42 since the election, but the State has to receive their coupons at par.

"Useless rests the head that wears a crown." Prince Alexander of Bulgaria, has informed the Czar that he desires to abdicate.

The effect of good prices realized by farmers for the wheat crop that was harvested in August is seen in the fact that they have reserved unusual quantities for seed wheat, and that the average of winter wheat sown this fall in the central Western States for next year's crop is from 50 to 100 per cent greater than was ever known before. The amount of land prepared to be sown next March and April with spring wheat is also unprecedented, and whatever winter wheat is destroyed by severe weather will be replaced by spring wheat. The winter wheat sown has all sprouted well, and the prospects are that the wheat crop next year will be enormous, far greater than this country has ever seen before. A year hence these Western farmers may find they have overdone the business; but the chances are that between war, famine, and flood, Europe will be able to absorb all the breadstuffs America can spare, and the investment will probably prove as profitable as one as could have been made—Baltimore American.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

Experts have completed their examination of the Freedmen's Bank affairs.

The International Fair, which begins in New York next Monday, promises to be a great success.

Yesterday was the twentieth anniversary of the hanging of John Brown, of Ossawatimie notoriety, at Charlestown, W. Va.

An official investigation shows that the charges of horrible abuses in the Milwaukee House of Correction were true.

At the municipal elections in New England yesterday large republican gains are noted, except in some Connecticut towns.

The House of Representatives yesterday, by a vote of 114 to 111, referred a private claim to the Committee on War Claims, instead of the Judiciary Committee.

Jay Gould, while at St. Joseph, Mo., Monday and Tuesday, succeeded in getting \$30,000 from the Board of Trade to fill in ex-acting the Missouri and Pacific Railroad to that city.

A New York confederator has just forwarded to Madrid, Spain, a first shipment of one hundred pounds of chocolate caramels, which have been ordered for the special use of the household of King Alfonso.

The election in Louisiana yesterday passed off quietly, and resulted in the success of the democrats. In many parts the negroes voted with the democrats and for the adoption of the constitution.

A bill prepared by the Treasury Department authorizing the Secretary of the Treasury to advance the bonds maturing in 1881 into four per cent bonds, will probably be introduced into the House of Representatives this week.

Gen. and Mrs. Grant will leave Galena for Chicago to-day. They will sail for Havana on the latter part of the month, and return from Mexico via Galveston in April, going direct to Denver from there, and visiting the mining districts, including Leadville.

The British government has issued an order revoking previous instructions in regard to sheep exported from the U. S. to Great Britain. Hereafter sheep exported from the U. S. will not be required to be slaughtered at the place of landing.

The Reading Railroad Company reports a total business for the eleven months ended October 31, 1879, of \$22,295,446, an increase of \$3,779,351 as compared with the same period in 1878, a gain of business amounting to 20 per cent in a single year.

The commissions of 180 postmasters expire during the next four months, and 80 postoffices have become presidential during the past few months, their annual receipts having reached \$1,000. There are therefore 220 appointments to be made and acted upon before April next.

A company has been formed in New York, entitled the Metropolitan Building Company, limited, with a capital of \$1,000,000. It has purchased forty-four lots, upon which it will build a number of houses to rent from \$200 to \$500 per annum. It is said the plan has worked very successfully in Philadelphia.

A meeting was held in Faneuil Hall, Boston, last night, to take farewell of the Penna. Indians who have been in that city some time. Mayor Ames and others spoke in reference to the wrongs of the Penna. and resolutions were passed relating to the only solution of the Indian problem is to recognize the Indian as a free citizen and accord him rights under the fourteenth amendment.

The impression in Paris is that the Waddington ministry must go.

The Dutch government is anxious to have an extradition treaty with the United States. The Czar is confined to his bed at Cannes, and his physicians are constantly in attendance upon him.

Reports that Queen Victoria is suffering from an alarming illness have no foundation other than that the Queen has a slight cold.

The Czar has decided that Russia is to have a sort of cabinet government, some of the members to be chosen by election and some by appointment.

The Czar has arrived at Moscow. Rumors are current that on his way there an attempt was made upon his life, but no authentic details of the affair have been received.

In consequence of the recent anonymous threats received by the commandant of the barracks at Bir, in Lower, the whole of the commandant, including several cases of power, under escort, has been removed to Dublin.

The Chemnitz (Saxony) Tabacott states that an explosion of dynamite occurred in a mine in that district last evening, and it is feared that from 70 to 80 persons perished. The recovery of the corpses of the victims is actively proceeding.

Yesterday a man forced his way into the hall of the medical corps in Constantinople at the war ministry and wounded four persons with a dagger. The motive which prompted the act was private vengeance, and had no political significance.

The sentence of death passed by the military court upon the British Mr. King, who was convicted of the charge of attempting the assassination of General D. C. M. has been commuted to hard labor in the Siberian mines for an indefinite period.

Intelligence has been received that the the Bishop of Messina, Visar Apostolic for a portion of Abyssinia, has been imprisoned by King John. The Vatican has earnestly requested France and other governments, through the intermediary of France, to use their influence to obtain his liberation. The Pope will also send delegates to King John to intercede for the Bishop's release.

The Archbishop of Mechlin, Belgium, in a recent pastoral asserts that the Pope is not infallible, except when he judges questions which rest on the testimony of God—that is revealed truth or revealed law. This is intended to rob the charge that the Belgian bishops are guilty of schism or disobedience in disregarding the Pope's admonitions respecting the educational agitation. The Bishop of Turin, the most violent opponent of the liberal cabinet, has been superseded by an administrator appointed by the Pope. The Bishop's mind is believed to be unsound.

The London Post, in commenting upon Yakob Knaab's departure from Kabul for Peshawar, says: "This news is of great significance. It probably means that Afghanistan has seen the last of its Amirs. It also points to restraint if not actual punishment being in store for Yakob for his crimes—neither if not convictions in the massacre of his embassy. The exact part he played may never be known. The commission of inquiry are reported to have found it utterly impossible to obtain evidence that would justify a conviction for a major offence, but there is more than enough to establish Yakob's weakness and culpable negligence. The suddenness of the removal of the Amir from Kabul to Peshawar was calculated upon to thwart any attempts of the tribes along the road to rescue him from the British."

COURT OF APPEALS YESTERDAY.—Bank of Old Dominion vs. McVeigh. Argued by H. O. Claiborne, for plaintiff in error, and S. P. Beach and John Howard, for defendant, and continued until to-day.

Lucas for, &c., vs. Claiborne & Co. Writ of error awarded to the judgment of the Corporation Court of Alexandria rendered on the 23d of April, 1878.

Fire.—Newmarket, Mass., Dec. 3.—Bonsenville's mills, in Rochester, owned by Alden Bonsenville Jr., were burned this morning. The loss is \$90,000. No insurance. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

## FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 3, 1879.

The proceedings of neither House of Congress to-day, like those of yesterday, were interesting, and both Houses adjourned at an early hour. In the House Mr. Harris introduced a bill for the benefit of the Washington and St. Louis Narrow Gauge Railroad—an extension of the Washington and Ohio Railroad, Mr. Hinton called for the correspondence of Col. Mesby with the State Department in reference to crookedness in the Hong Kong and other Chinese consulates, and Mr. Goddard, in accordance with a resolution adopted at the preliminary celebration of the Yorktown centennial last October, offered a resolution for the appointment of a committee of thirteen to make arrangements for a grand national celebration of the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, on the 19th of October, 1881. When the resolution is adopted the Speaker will appoint as the committee a member from each of the old thirteen States.

In the Senate Mr. Bayard introduced a resolution making Treasury notes receivable for all dues except imposts, and not otherwise a legal tender, and that all such notes hereafter issued, shall bear that supererogation. Mr. Beck introduced a bill making Treasury notes receivable for customs and a legal tender for all dues, and Mr. Leavell, one prohibiting a reduction of the amount of Treasury notes, and making said notes a legal tender for all dues, in other words, as the Senator informed your correspondent, the purpose of his resolution was "directly contrary to the recommendation of Secretary Sherman," which is another blow at the administration from one of the stalwarts. Mr. Beck also introduced a bill providing for free ships. Mr. Baldwin, the late Senator Chandler's successor, was sworn in, taking the iron clad oath.

It is pretty well understood now that nothing will be done with the currency at this session of Congress. Secretary Sherman says he wants nothing done, and a well informed republican member who has canvassed his side of the House on the subject, says there are not a dozen republican representatives who do.

Among the appointments sent by the President to the Senate to-day are the following: B. M. Cox, to be postmaster at Farmville, Va.; G. E. Bowden, to be collector of customs at Norfolk, Va.; Chris. Bartley, of Iowa, to be auditor; P. S. Wales, to be medical inspector of the navy; and Capt. Plummer, of the Washington Sunday Herald, to be 2nd lieutenant in the army.

Between four and five hundred refugees from North Carolina, the second instalment, arrived this morning en route to Indiana, which State is now being repopulated in this way for the next presidential election.

Among the strangers in the city to-day is Major J. Hersey Lacy, who is an applicant for the superintendency of the census in his district. He was favorably endorsed by all the Virginia delegation present except General Johnston, who seemed to consider the Major as a sort of bullseye, and resisted the direct and matter of fact manner in which the Major made his approach.

Gen. Sherman, to whom the Vice Commission have been sending dispatches, says he wants to hear nothing more from him but that when the fact is over he will be ready to take part in the drama.

The news received here from Richmond is looked upon as ominous of the defeat of Senator Withers, the affiliation of the colored republicans with the readjusters in the latter's caucus last night being considered as foreshadowing that result. The negroes in the Virginia Legislature, like the stalwarts here, are off with the Administration, can't take its advice, and seemingly are disposed to accept individual benefits in sight in preference to promises of party good and approving oneself to the future.

It is understood that the Senatorial demonstration yesterday, instructed its committee to investigate the behavior of the Sergeant at Arms, and there are rumors that several members of the caucus recommended Mr. Bright's removal.

Mr. J. D. Cockbill, who is generally expected to be appointed Attorney for the District of Columbia, was editor of the Washington Chronicle, clerk of the U. S. Court in Iowa, and is a son in law of Justice Miller. His appointment will be looked upon in the light of a quid pro quo for the part that Justice took in the Electoral Commission.

A FUTURE KING.—The English people have but just awakened to the fact that the elder of the two sons of the Prince of Wales is a probable heir to the throne, and that he is, as such, an interesting person. At the same time they remember, with a mixture of amusement and amazement, that they know almost nothing about him. In fact, they are rather puzzled, when it is necessary to speak of him, to know how he is to be called. He is, in full, Prince Albert Victor Christian Edward. He used to be styled Prince Victor of Wales. Popularly he has been known as Prince Victor. When he was studying on board the Britannia he was called Prince Edward. Out of the abundance of titles it is not easy to make a choice, and the British public seems to be as much at sea, metaphorically, as the Prince is literally in attempting to decipher anything interesting or gossip about one who, if he lives long enough, will be the ruler of a vast empire. The Prince was born at Frogmore Lodge, Windsor, on the 8th of January, 1864, and has therefore, nearly completed his sixteenth year. In general, his history and person are unknown, and his life has been almost as obscure as that of any boy in the kingdom. What has now drawn attention to him is his sailing in company with his brother whom all English folk know as Prince George of Wales, on a voyage round the world. The two Princes have been trained on board the Britannia, and now they go as cadet midshipmen on the ship Nowatch, which sailed from Portsmouth harbor on the 18th of September, after a week spent in drill, and then to take part for a short cruise in the Mediterranean and to pass the winter in the West Indies. Of course very little will be heard from the young princes while they are absent on this voyage, and they will return, a year or two hence, tall striplings, one of them just coming into manhood. As they are the only sons of the Prince of Wales, the succession would pass, in case of their death, to the daughter, and once again the British throne would be occupied by a woman.—Boston Advertiser.

A LOCOMOTIVE STRANGLY WRECKED.—A singular accident occurred recently at the round house yard of the New Jersey Central Railroad, Phillipsburgh, N. J. A new engine was standing near the turn table, which was adjusted to receive another engine. The fireman of the new engine was engaged in polishing the brass work, and was stepping into the cab window when his foot struck the throttle, throwing it aside open. In an instant the engine was off under a full head of steam. The driving wheels made two revolutions and then the ponderous machine dashed into the open pit of the turn table. The fireman shot out of the turn table. The engine had been done and the engine was a wreck at the bottom of the pit, the table was ruined, and a loss of \$5,000 or more was occasioned. There are four freight engines and two passenger engines imprisoned in the round house. The fireman was uninjured, but has been discharged. The engineer will also probably lose his place for leaving the engine standing in that position.

## FROM RICHMOND.

(Special Dispatches to the Alexandria Gazette.)

RICHMOND, Dec. 3.—Causes of the debt paying and readjusting members of the Legislature were held last night and were largely attended.

The debt payers made no nominations for officers, while the readjusters, full of confidence and boast, went right to work and made up a clean ticket: For Speaker of the House ex-Judge B. W. Lacy, of New Kent; clerk, P. H. McCull, of Henrico; sergeant-at-arms, A. J. Taylor, of Fairfax; first doorkeeper, Geo. W. Cook, colored, of Norfolk; second doorkeeper, J. W. Southall, of Henrico, republican. For the Senate the following were named: C. H. Causey, of Nansemond, clerk; C. M. Webber, of Henrico, sergeant-at-arms, and J. H. Hill, colored, of Petersburg, doorkeeper; President pro tem, Gen. Wyatt M. Elliott, of Appomattox.

The debt payers' caucus was presided over by Abram Fulkerson, Senator from Washington, and a resolution was unanimously adopted declaring it to be the intention of the readjusters to remove all of the State officers who are known to be in sympathy with the feuders, and elect in their places men of their own way of thinking. It was also agreed that a committee from each congressional district shall make nominations for all the capital officers, and superintendent and storekeeper of the penitentiary, and submit the names of their choice for each of these positions to the caucus, who are to confirm them. The 5th of December was agreed on as the day when the two branches of the Legislature should go into an election to fill the capital offices. It was further agreed that all propositions in relation to the public debt and other important questions shall be submitted to the caucus and discussed before being presented in either branch of the Legislature.

The readjusters claim that they had 82 members of the two houses in the caucus, and it is quite certain that a large majority of the public members participated. All of the leaders who spoke agreed to a liberal policy for the colored people.

It is thought that the Rev. John E. Massey will succeed Mr. W. E. Taylor as Auditor, and ex-Judge Stevens, of Nelson, General Asa Rogers, as second auditor, if the readjusters can succeed in carrying out their plans.

Knowing now here say that the readjusters will be able, by and with the aid of the republicans to carry everything before them; that the coalition between them is complete, and that the overtures that have been made to the colored people will, in the future, secure their united cooperation; that the leaders of the readjusters, confident of their strength, have determined to take the reins of the State government into their own hands and control as long as possible, and that having succeeded in dismembering the conservative party almost beyond a hope of its reunion, will now adopt such measures, especially in reference to the negroes, as will ensure the sympathy, if not the active co-operation, of the North, thus giving them weight in national politics. Gen. Mahone and Col. W. E. Cameron, with zealous and active assistants, indeed, it is possible, to do away with the present political organization and build up a new party in the State, rising issue that will tend further to destroy the old conservative party, and it is possible to believe that this is to be done to gratify selfish ambition, and in the attempt it may be to ruin the credit of the State.

A republican caucus was held at which it was determined to permit each member to decide for himself whether or not he should join the readjusters' caucus and join that party in the organization of the House.

In the readjusters' caucus Dr. Moffatt declined to be a candidate for Speaker of the House.

Senator Paul, during the debate in the caucus, claimed that this is the first party organized in Virginia since the war, which has broken the color line. He said that he wished to see the rights of all guaranteed and secured by proper legislation. They met and agreed with the colored people, and he repeated what was said once that the color line in politics must be broken.

## VIRGINIA NEWS.

Three hundred cords of wood near Stony Creek station, on the Petersburg and Weldon railroad, were consumed yesterday morning, the fire destroying the railroad for some distance and impeding travel. The northern bound mail train from the South, with 200 colored emigrants from different parts of North Carolina en route to Indiana, due in Petersburg at 2:30 p. m. yesterday, had not arrived last night. Telegraphic communication with Southern points is cut off.

The dwelling house of Col. William Barbour, an old colonial homestead in Stafford county, was burned on Sunday night with all its contents, including much antique furniture and other articles of value. Col. Barbour, now in his ninetieth year, barely saved himself from the flames. There was but one other occupant of the house.

The employees of the Southern Express Company have erected at Fredericksburg a marble cenotaph twenty feet high to the memory of William Willis, their late superintendent, who fell a victim to yellow fever in Memphis in 1878.

## CATHOLICS AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

An official statement has been made concerning the recent utterance of Archbishop Williams, made at a recent meeting of the Catholic clergy of Boston with regard to Catholic schools. The Archbishop urged that, whenever practicable, Catholic schools should be established in every parish, and, as far as possible, made equal to public schools. They are regarded as practicable where their establishment and support would not create any serious financial embarrassment, or impose too grievous a burden on the resources of the faithful, and in the absence of suitable Catholic schools parents who send their children to the public schools rather than to allow them to grow up ignorant should make it a matter of conscience to take due precautions against the dangers of such schools, and attend diligently to the instruction of the children in the Christian doctrine out of school hours. In this connection the Archbishop read from the instructions sent to bishops of the United States through the Roman Propaganda in a document dated November 24, 1875, and printed in some papers in this country soon after its reception, considering the document in question, and with reference to circumstances where Catholic parents may, with safe conscience, send their children to public schools, where (the danger being made remote) sufficient cause exists, such schools may be commonly sent where there is no Catholic school at hand, or where that which is accessible is little suited to educate the children properly. The Archbishop said: "In case of a decided and persistent difference of opinion arising between the pastor and parents, as to the sufficiency of the school, the matter must be referred to the decision of both parties, whose decision will govern the conduct of both pastor and parents, for parents, and sufficient reasons, omit to send their children to parochial schools, but otherwise secure for them efficient religious instruction, may, if well disposed, be admitted to sacraments. This may, with safe conscience, be done, and is fully refused any of the sacraments of the Church to any Catholic reasonably suffering from the same. Excommunication, as also public denunciation of individuals, or designated classes, is strictly forbidden to all priests of the diocese in this, as in all other cases."

ACQUITTED.—John S. Asch, who has been on trial in Port Tobacco, for the murder of John A. Dixon, for several days past, was acquitted on Monday night.

The secret social democratic agitation in Germany is increasing.

## Letter from Richmond.

(Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.)

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 2.—The policy of secrecy is still the prevailing one on the readjuster side. As was evidenced to night their plan is to endeavor to rush the election before the reaction, which they fear, takes place. They can only win with the negro and white republican vote that they count on. They had a conference at the White office last night, and agreed to hold a caucus to night. Everything was to be conducted with the utmost secrecy. Mahone has never been seen on the streets except at night. He has a thoroughly organized system of spies and spies, and each negro member is closely shadowed by one of his men. It was agreed that the movements of the readjusters should be conducted with the greatest secrecy. To night their caucus met at the Ballard House. Among those in attendance, and conspicuously so too, was Mr. Farr, of Fairfax, so the Gazette's correspondent is informed. Farr has been counted as a Debt Payer and Conservative heretofore. The caucus was called to order by Senator Fulkerson, who was elected its chairman. He made a short speech, urging them to stick together, and proclaiming that the obligation of this caucus was to settle the debt question upon a sound basis as would be satisfactory to the people of Virginia. Judge B. W. Lacy, of New Kent, was nominated for Speaker of the House. Dr. Moffatt was not put in nomination, or rather declined to run. P. H. McCull, of Potosi, was elected clerk of the Senate, beating Asa Rogers, jr., business manager of the Whig, so badly that the latter did not get more than 12 votes. McCull was a member of the last House, and is a brother of Capt. John A. McCull. Anderson J. Taylor, defeated member from Fluvanna, was declared the nominee for sergeant-at-arms. At this stage of the game a member of the caucus from Louisa objected that the nominations had been made with such clericality that he thought the thing had been out and dried. He nominated James H. Woolfolk for first doorkeeper, but afterwards withdrew his name. He said that the conference of the night before had, he thought, decided that all nominations were to be submitted to a committee from the different congressional districts, but instead of this they were elected in secret, and the men who had elected the most got the places. He was afterwards quoted, as was also another ostensible member, George W. Cook, a negro, was then elected first doorkeeper. G. W. Southall, a republican readjuster of Henrico, was elected 2d doorkeeper. For the Senate Capt. Charles H. Causey, of Goochland's district, was unanimously elected clerk of the Senate. Capt. Webber, of Henrico, was elected sergeant-at-arms, and Capt. J. H. Hill (negro), Mahone's right hand man, was elected doorkeeper of the Senate, and Gen. Wyatt M. Elliott was elected president pro tem. Then Mr. Riddlebarger, who was the master spirit of the meeting, urged the members to go home and not say a word as to what had been done by the caucus, and to be in their seats to-morrow at 12, ready to vote solidly. At the opening of this meeting Riddlebarger presented a series of resolutions prepared by a preamble, stating the situation from the readjuster point of view.

The caucus determined to appoint a committee of one from each congressional district, to whom all names of candidates for the Capitol offices (exclusive of the legislative officers), be submitted, and said committee nominate to the caucus the names of those they decide best suited to run for the offices.

Mr. Riddlebarger also offered a resolution that each man in this caucus bind himself to be bound by its decisions in regard to all the offices and all the issues upon the State debt question. Also that a committee be appointed to whom shall be referred all matters relating to the public debt, and resolved further that any man who proposes to offer any resolution or plan in regard to the public debt first submit it to this caucus.

In his speech supporting his resolutions Mr. Riddlebarger said that his old friend Aaron Massey will not be able to buy up all the new converts that will present themselves. He said that they should put only men in office who would work for them and vote for them in the future. That fairness be done all the districts, he wanted the officers to be apportioned by the committee.

It was decided to elect the State officers Friday, and Paul made a wild speech, claiming great victory and untold benefits to the people of Virginia.

After Mr. Paul's speech a colored member moved that speeches be limited to five minutes, which was carried.

The Conservatives had an informal conference to-night. The fight will be close for weeks.

## CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1879.

## SENATE.

Mr. Ferry presented the credentials of Hon. Henry P. Baldwin, appointed a senator from Michigan, vice Hon. Z. Chandler, deceased, and Mr. Baldwin was thereupon sworn in, and took his seat.

Mr. Beck introduced a bill to authorize the payment of customs duties in legal tender notes; also a bill to amend title 48 of the revised statutes, so as to authorize the purchase of foreign built ships, by citizens of the U. S., for use in the foreign carrying trade, both of which were referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Bayard introduced a joint resolution, that from and after the passage of this resolution, the Treasury notes of the U. S. shall be receivable for all dues to the U. S., excepting duties on imports, and shall not be otherwise a legal tender, and any of said notes hereafter issued shall bear this supererogation, which was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Ingalls offered a resolution that, in the opinion of the Senate, the present value of U. S. notes should not be reduced, and that said notes ought to continue to be a legal tender in the payment of debts.

At 12:40, on motion of Mr. Anthony, the Senate adjourned until to-morrow.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

By unanimous consent the House proceeded to a call of States for bills, at the conclusion of which, about 1 o'clock, an adjournment was effected without opposition.

## HOW THE FIRST PROPOSITION FOR THANKSGIVING IN THE DISTRICT WAS REJECTED.

The following extract is from the memoirs of John Quincy Adams:

"1822—November 15. Dr. Laurie, minister of the Presbyterian Church came and said that he would be this morning a meeting of clergymen who proposed to send a committee to me to request the appointment of a day of Thanksgiving and prayer in this District (the 24th of this month). He inquired if I should have any objection to making the appointment. I said none, myself, but I would consult the members of the Administration, and answer him to-morrow."

16th.—Mr. Laurie's proposition for the appointment of a day of thanksgiving and prayer within the District. All the members of the Administration present were against it; objected to it as "a thing to be introduced by a political purpose, of introducing a new religious observance of using high authority for an inferior measure. I requested in these opinions."—Wash. Star.

Dr. Cheatham recommends in the Louisville Medical News the use of sulphate of calomel as a means of delaying the use of spectacles, so that they will not be required for several years, this alkaloid having the power of stimulating the ciliary muscle and thus assisting accommodation. The strength of solution recommended is one grain of the sulphate of calomel in an ounce of water. One drop of this solution is to be put in the eye at night, or when required.

The secret social democratic agitation in Germany is increasing.

## MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

At the Baltimore Stock Board yesterday Virginia consols sold at 43 and closed stronger at 43½, and 10-40s were held at 43½, with 42 bid. Coupons are neglected, with a few small sales at 81. Manassas 7s were quoted at 70½, and Orange and Alexandria fourths at 71½.

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